

- 1 BIO is not aware that there was any general problem in Montana of seed technology providers suing farmers, aside from perhaps very few isolated cases. If there is not a problem in this state or elsewhere – we again cite the ISAAA record yields data for last year – why adopt a policy that could be confusing at best and at worst benefit bad actors thereby harming those who abide by the law?

BIO urges the Montana House Agriculture Committee to OPPOSE HB445. Thank you.

KEY FINDINGS OF THE 2009 ISAAA REPORT

- 1 In 2008, global biotech acreage grew to 309 million acres (125 million hectares) versus 282 million acres (114.3 million hectares) in 2007.
 - 2 This is a 26.43 million acre (10.7 million hectare) increase, an increase of 9.4 percent.
- 2 In 2008, biotech crops were grown in 25 countries, up from 23 countries in 2007.
 - 1 New countries growing biotech crops include the African nations of Egypt and Burkina Faso.
 - 2 Africa is considered the “final frontier” for biotech crops as it has perhaps the greatest need and most to gain.
- 3 More than 2 billion acres (800 million hectares) of biotech crops have been planted globally since 1996.
 - 1 Accumulated acreage of biotech crops (for the period 1996 to 2008) exceeded 2 billion acres in 2008 for the first time.
 - 2 It took 10 years to reach the first billion acres, but only three years to reach the second billion acres.
 - 3 Of the 25 countries planting biotech crops, 15 are developing countries.
- 4 In 2008, biotech crops were grown by 13.3 million farmers, up from 12 million in 2007.
 - 1 90 percent (12.3 million) are resource-poor farmers.
- 5 By the end of the second decade of commercialization in 2015, ISAAA predicts that four billion accumulated acres will have been planted.
 - 1 Further, ISAAA predicts 200 million hectares of biotech crops annually will be planted in a total of 40 countries.

Table 1. Global Area of Biotech Crops in 2008: by Country (Million Hectares)

Ran k	Country	Area (million hectares)	Biotech Crops
1*	USA*	62.5	Soybean, maize, cotton, canola, squash, papaya, alfalfa, sugarbeet
2*	Argentina*	21.0	Soybean, maize, cotton
3*	Brazil*	15.8	Soybean, maize, cotton
4*	India*	7.6	Cotton
5*	Canada*	7.6	Canola, maize, soybean, sugarbeet
6*	China*	3.8	Cotton, tomato, poplar, petunia, papaya, sweet pepper
7*	Paraguay*	2.7	Soybean
8*	South Africa*	1.8	Maize, soybean, cotton
9*	Uruguay*	0.7	Soybean, maize
10*	Bolivia*	0.6	Soybean
11*	Philippines*	0.4	Maize
12*	Australia*	0.2	Cotton, canola, carnation
13*	Mexico*	0.1	Cotton, soybean
14*	Spain*	0.1	Maize
15	Chile	<0.1	Maize, soybean, canola
16	Colombia	<0.1	Cotton, carnation
17	Honduras	<0.1	Maize
18	Burkina Faso	<0.1	Cotton
19	Czech Republic	<0.1	Maize
20	Romania	<0.1	Maize